

piece/split-nut assembly 23 that is screwed into the tank shell. Figure 9 shows generally the withdrawal outlet piece 20. Figures 4-7 generally show the component halves of the split-nut. Figure 8 shows the split-nut housing assembly 22 as it looks when its component halves are joined, forming a substantially continuous threaded portion with a head. Figure 10 illustrates how the withdrawal outlet piece 20 is rotatably engaged within the interior of the split nut housing assembly 22.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 2 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. A pressure vessel comprising:

a seamless tank shell defining an interior space and having an outer surface wherein said tank shell is comprised of more than one bosses, each of said bosses having a threaded portion; said outer surface having a fuel withdrawal assembly or a direct-sight fuel gauge mechanically fastened thereto; and said fuel withdrawal assembly includes a threaded portion engaged with said threaded portion of one of said plurality of bosses.

Please amend claim 3 as follows:

3. The pressure vessel of claim 1 wherein said fuel withdrawal assembly is engaged with said one of said plurality of bosses by one and one-half revolutions of sealing force.

Please amend claim 6 as follows:

6. The pressure vessel of claim 5, wherein the fuel withdrawal assembly comprises a split-nut housing including two mated halves, said mated halves defining an interior space and forming a continuous threaded portion, and, said withdrawal outlet piece rotatably engaged

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End within said interior space defined by said mated halves.

Please amend claim 8 as follows:

Q6 8. The pressure vessel of claim 7, wherein the pressure vessel comprises a direct-sight fuel gauge having a threaded portion engaged with said threaded portion of one of said plurality of bosses.

[Please amend claim 9 as follows:]

9. The pressure vessel of claim 8, wherein the direct-sight fuel gauge comprises:
a gauge neck having a lower portion having threads, an upper portion having threads, and an interior wall having a gauge cap having threads wherein the lower portion of the gauge neck is threadedly connected to said one of said plurality of bosses, the gauge cap is threadedly connected to said upper portion of the gauge neck.

Please amend claim 19 as follows:

Q7 19. The pressure vessel of claim 1, wherein said one of said plurality of bosses to which the fuel withdrawal assembly is engaged is comprised of a substantially capped end, the fuel withdrawal assembly is comprised of a lower flange having a lower surface, and the lower surface engages the capped end to form a seal.

Please amend claim 20 as follows:

20. The pressure vessel of claim 1 wherein said tank shell is comprised of high-density polyethylene.

Please add new claims 29-34 as follows:

Q8 cont. 29. The pressure vessel of claim 9, wherein said interior wall of said gauge neck has two cradles and a plurality of tabs; a float arm having cross-bars; and said cross-bars of said float arm are engaged with said cradles and said plurality of tabs secure the cross-bars with the cradles.

30. A pressure vessel comprising:

a seamless tank shell defining an interior space and having an outer surface wherein said tank shell is comprised of more than one bosses, each of said bosses having a threaded portion; said outer surface having a fuel withdrawal assembly or a direct-sight fuel gauge mechanically fastened thereto; and said fuel withdrawal assembly includes a threaded portion engaged with said threaded portion of one of said plurality of bosses; and

said fuel withdrawal assembly is engaged with said one of said plurality of bosses by one and one-half revolutions of sealing force; and

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said fuel withdrawal assembly includes a withdrawal outlet piece capable of 360 degree rotation when engaged with said fuel withdrawal assembly; and

said one of said boss which is engaged with said fuel withdrawal assembly is substantially engaged with said interior space of said tank shell and said fuel withdrawal assembly extends less than 1.5 inches above said outer surface of said tank shell; and

the fuel withdrawal assembly comprises a split-nut housing including two mated halves, said mated halves defining an interior space and forming a continuous threaded portion, and, said withdrawal outlet piece rotatably engaged within said interior space defined by said mated halves; and

said one of said plurality of bosses to which the fuel withdrawal assembly is connected is comprised of a substantially capped end, the fuel withdrawal assembly is comprised of a lower flange having a lower surface, and the lower surface engages the capped end to form a seal; and

the pressure vessel comprises a direct-sight fuel gauge having a threaded portion engaged with said threaded portion of one of said plurality of bosses; and

the direct-sight fuel gauge comprises: